



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/561,607	12/20/2005	Sang Rae Park	YOON.0001	6522
20/987 7590 08/05/2008 VOLENTINE & WHITT PLLC ONE FREEDOM SQUARE 11951 FREEDOM DRIVE SUITE 1260 RESTON, VA 20190				
EXAMINER GEBRIEL, SELAM T				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2622				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
08/05/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/561,607

Applicant(s)

PARK, SANG RAE

Examiner

SELAM T. GEBRIEL

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/5508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 2, 7 –13, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tullis (US 6,535,243 B1).
3. Regarding claim 1, Tullis disclose a personal surveillance system (Figure 2) using a portable surveillance camera (Figure 2, Element 40) comprising:

One or more portable surveillance camera (Figure 2, Element 40) having a wireless communication (Figure 2, Element 72) function and capable of capturing a required image (Col 4, Line 1 - 20); and

A control device (Figure 2, Element 10) for collecting the image captured from the portable surveillance camera (Col 5, Line 51 - 60) through wireless communication (Figure 2, Element 14) and storing the collected image to perform a predetermined signal processing (Col 6, Line 26 – 32).

4. Regarding claim 2, Tullis further discloses the personal surveillance system according to claim 1, wherein the portable surveillance camera comprises:

A camera unit (Figure 2, Element 40) for capturing the required image to perform a predetermined image processing (Col 4, Line 1 - 32); and

A wireless module (Figure 2, Element 72) for providing a wireless communication function with the control device (Col 5, Line 13 - 41).

5. Regarding claim 7, Tullis further discloses the personal surveillance system according to claim 1, wherein the control device (Figure 2, Element 10) comprises:

A wireless module (Figure 2, Element 14) for providing a wireless communication function with the portable surveillance camera;

A searching unit for accessing the portable surveillance camera through the wireless module to search the data stored in the portable surveillance camera remotely (Col 7, Line 3 - 7, Col 6, Line 6 - 12);

A storage unit (Figure 2, Element 16) for storing data received from the portable surveillance camera through the wireless module (Col 5, Line 61 - 66); and

A display (The control device is a laptop computer it has a display screen) for representing the stored image and a state of the control device (Col 6, Line 6 - 12).

6. Regarding claim 8, Tullis further discloses the personal surveillance system according to claim 7, wherein the control device further comprises:

A network connection unit (Figure 10, Element 14) for enabling inter-access with external apparatus connected to a network to transmit data to a storage unit or a PC which is located at a long distance through the network connection unit or to transmit an

Art Unit: 2622

event image generated from the portable surveillance camera and/or the control device to a personal portable terminal by being connected to the personal portable terminal such as a PDA or a cellular phone for remote surveillance or to input data from a web camera or a PC camera which is located at a long distance (Col 5, 42 – 50 and , Col 5, line 13 – 41, Col 65, Line 45 – 63).

7. Regarding claim 9, Tullis further discloses the personal surveillance system according to claim 8, wherein the network connection unit is selected from one or more from a wire network connection unit, a CDMA module, a GSM module and a wireless network modem, and is configured to be embedded or removable in the control device (Col 5, 42 – 50 and , Col 5, line 13 – 41, Col 65, Line 45 – 63).

8. Regarding claim 10, Tullis further discloses the personal surveillance system according to claim 7, wherein the control device further comprises:

A temporary storage memory (The memory device 16 can be a RAM) for temporarily storing data inputted through the wireless module (Col 5, Line 61 – 65);

A central processing unit (Figure 2, Element 18) for compressing data temporarily stored in the temporary storage memory;

A compressing storage memory (Figure 2, Element 16) for storing the data compressed by the central processing unit; and

An external port (The host device is a portable computer and it has external port) for storing the data in an external storage unit or providing connection to an external unit

to download, search, store or process the data, which is stored in the compressing storage memory, in an external personal computer (Col 6, Line 60 – 63, “states that the camera can physically be connected to a supporting computer by a cable”)

9. Regarding claim 11, Tullis further discloses the personal surveillance system according to claim 10, wherein the control device further comprises:

An image/sound decoder (Figure 10, Element 14) for decoding a received image and/or sound data (Col 8, line 1 – 23),

The temporary storage memory (The memory device 16 can be a RAM) temporarily stores the image and/or sound data,

The central processing unit compresses the image and/or sound data (Col 8, line 1 – 23), and

The compressing storage memory (Figure 2, Element 16) stores the compressed image and/or sound data (Col 8, line 1 – 23).

10. Regarding claim 12, Tullis further discloses the personal surveillance system according to claim 7, wherein the control device further comprises:

An image/sound encoder (Figure 2, Element 14) for outputting data to an image processing unit (Col 8, line 1 – 23, the image processing unit process sound and image).

11. Regarding claim 13, Tullis further discloses the personal surveillance system according to claim 1, wherein the control device is a general PC having one or more ports connectable to an external unit and the wireless module is attached to the port for wireless transmission and reception (Col 5, Line 42 – 60).

12. Regarding claim 18, Tullis disclose portable surveillance camera (Figure 2) applied to a personal surveillance system, comprising:

A camera unit (Figure 2, Element 40) for capturing a required image to perform a predetermined image processing; and

A wireless module (Figure 2, Element 72) for transmitting and receiving wireless data externally.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

13. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 2622

14. Claims 3, 4, 14 – 17, 19 - 24, and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tullis (US 6,535,243 B1) in view of Kim (6,681,120 B1).

15. Regarding claim 3, Tullis further discloses the personal surveillance system according to claim 2, wherein the camera unit (Figure 2, Element 40) comprises:

A mini-camera (Figure 2, Element 44, and 48) for capturing an image (Col 4, Line 1 – 20);

A temporary storage memory (Figure 2, Element 52) for temporarily storing data outputted from the mini-camera (Col 4, Line 33 – 47);

A central processing unit (Figure 2, Element 56) for compressing the data temporarily stored in the temporary storage memory (Col 4, Line 21 – 32);

A compressing storage memory (Figure 2, Element 52) for storing data compressed by the central processing unit (Col 4, Line 33 – 47);

A display (Figure 2, Element 68) for representing the stored image and a state of the camera in a screen (Col 4, Line 61 – 64);

A searching unit (Figure 2, Element 64) for searching the data by representing the stored data through the display (Col 4, Line 53 – 60, Col 7, Line 52 – 65); and

Tullis failed to disclose an external port for storing the data in an external storage unit or for providing connection to an external unit in order to download, search, store or process the data, which is stored in the compressing storage memory, in a personal computer.

Kim disclose an external port (Figure 5, Element 124) for storing the data in an external storage unit or for providing connection to an external unit in order to download, search, store or process the data, which is stored in the compressing storage memory, in a personal computer (Col 3, Line 58 – 65).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Tullis camera to incorporate an external port or

computer jack 124 as taught by Kim to download, search, store or process the data, which is stored in the compressing storage memory, in a personal computer. The motivation to do so would be to give more option to the user of the system to connect the camera with other peripheral devices like a personal computer for data transferring and other image processing purposes.

16. Regarding claim 4, Tullis in view of Kim disclose the personal surveillance system according to claim 3, wherein the camera unit further comprises:

An infrared LED (Kim, Figure 5, Element 118) for providing a light source for night photographing (Kim, Col 4, Line 17 – 20).

17. Regarding claim 14, Tullis disclose a surveillance system.

Tullis failed the surveillance system comprising an alarm wired or wireless connectable to the portable surveillance camera or the control device at a close distance.

Kim discloses an alarm (Figure 5, Element 123) wired or wireless connectable to the portable surveillance camera or the control device at a close distance (Col 4, Line 29 – 67)

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the surveillance system of Tullis with the alarm button taught in Kim surveillance system. The motivation to do so is to produce an audible alarm for dissuading an attacker or an intruder.

18. Regarding claim 15, Tullis in view of Kim further disclose the personal surveillance system according to claim 14, wherein the portable surveillance camera or the control device further comprises:

A sensor connection unit (Kim, Figure 5, Element 111) for connecting at least one or more sensors (Kim, Figure 5, Element 110) selected from movement, fire, heat, gas, door open and close sensors (Kim, Col 4, Line 35 – 44); and

A unit for processing (Kim, Figure 5, Element 112) a signal inputted from the sensor and generating an event signal to provide a signal for controlling the operation of the alarm when a predetermined event is generated (Kim, Col 4, Line 35 – 67)

Regarding claim 16, Tullis in view of Kim further disclose the personal surveillance system according to claim 14, wherein the alarm further comprises a unit (Figure 5 Element 112) for generating an event while networking with an external switch unit such as a bell (Col 4, Line 29 – 67).

Regarding claim 17, Tullis in view of Kim further disclose the personal surveillance system according to claim 14, wherein the alarm further comprises a unit for controlling setting/cancellation (Kim, Figure 5, Element 112) of the alarm function with a wireless remote control (Kim, Col 4, Line 29 – 67)

19. Regarding claim 19, Tullis disclose the portable surveillance camera according to claim 18, wherein the camera unit (Figure 2, Element 40) comprises: A mini-camera (Figure 2, Element 44, and 48) for capturing an image; a temporary storage memory for temporarily storing data outputted from the mini-camera;

A central processing unit (Figure 2, Element 56) for compressing data temporarily stored in the temporary storage memory;

A compressing storage memory (Figure 2, Element 52) for storing the data compressed by the central processing unit;

A display (Figure 2, Element 68) for representing the collected image and a state of the camera on a screen;

A searching unit (Figure 2, Element 64) for representing the stored data through the display to search the data; and

Tullis failed to disclose an external port for storing the data in an external storage unit or for providing connection to an external unit in order to download, search, store or process the data, which is stored in the compressing storage memory, in a personal computer.

Kim disclose an external port (Figure 5, Element 124) for storing the data in an external storage unit or for providing connection to an external unit in order to download, search, store or process the data, which is stored in the compressing storage memory, in a personal computer (Col 3, Line 58 – 65).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Tullis camera to incorporate an external port or computer jack 124 as taught by Kim to download, search, store or process the data, which is stored in the compressing storage memory, in a personal computer. The motivation to do so would be to give more option to the user of the system to connect

the camera with other peripheral devices like a personal computer for data transferring and other image processing purposes.

20. Regarding claim 20, Tullis in view of Kim further disclose the portable surveillance camera according to claim 19, wherein the camera unit further comprises:

An image/sound decoder (Tullis Figure 2 Element 14, and Kim, 107, 108, and 109) for decoding a received image and/or sound data,

The temporary storage memory (Tullis, Figure 2, Element 52) temporarily stores the image and/or sound data (Tullis, Col 4, Line 33 – 47),

The central processing unit (Tullis, Figure 2, Element 56) compresses the image and/or sound data, and

The compressing storage memory (Tullis, Figure 2, Element 52) stores the compressed image and/or sound data (Tullis, Col 4, Line 33 – 47).

21. Regarding claim 21, Tullis in view of Kim further disclose the portable surveillance camera according to claim 19, wherein the camera unit further comprises:

A FIFO memory (Tullis, Figure 2, Element 52, the memory can be used to buffer digital image data, Col 4, Line 3 5 – 39) for performing a buffer function;

A CPLD module (Tullis, Figure 2, Element 52 and 56) for temporarily storing and transmitting the data in the FIFO to adjust data input and output speed so that the data is read through an externally installed monitor; and

An image/sound encoder (Tullis Figure 2 Element 14, and Kim, 107, 108, and 109) for outputting data received from the CPLD module to an external image processing unit.

22. Regarding claim 22, Tullis in view of Kim further disclose the portable surveillance camera according to claim 19, wherein the camera unit further comprises:

A removable chipset memory for storing the compressed data (Tullis, Col 4, Line 33 – 47, the camera may be augmented with removable memory).

23. Regarding claim 23, Tullis in view of Kim further disclose the portable surveillance camera according to claim 19, wherein the camera unit further comprises:

A removable view finder for easily displaying a boundary of images captured by the mini-camera (Tullis, Col 7, Line 3 – 7).

24. Regarding claim 24, Tullis in view of Kim further disclose the portable surveillance camera according to claim 19, wherein the camera unit further comprises:

An infrared LED (Kim, Figure 5, Element 118) for providing a light source for night photographing (Kim, Col 4, Line 17 – 20).

25. Regarding claim 27, Tullis disclose a portable surveillance camera according to claim 18.

Tullis failed to disclose a portable surveillance camera comprising a sensor connection unit for connecting at least one or more sensors selected from movement, fire, heat, gas, door open and close sensors; and a unit for processing a signal inputted from the sensor and generating an event signal to provide a signal for controlling the operation of the alarm when a predetermined event is generated.

Kim discloses a portable surveillance camera comprising a sensor connection unit (Figure 5, Element 111) for connecting at least one or more sensors (Figure 5, Element 110) selected from movement, fire, heat, gas, door open and close sensors (Col 4, Line 35 – 44); and a unit for processing (Figure 5, Element 112) a signal inputted from the sensor and generating an event signal to provide a signal for controlling the operation of the alarm when a predetermined event is generated (Col 4, Line 35 – 67).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the surveillance camera of Tullis with a sensor connection unit for connecting sensors and a unit for processing a signal from the sensors as taught in Kim. The motivation to do is that for the portable camera system to sense by using a sensor the motion and the presence of an intruder inside a building or wherever the user installs the portable surveillance system and communicated through

the sensor connecting unit to the microprocessor to activate any desire function such as audible alarm. (Col 4, Line 55 – 67).

26. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tullis (US 6,535,243 B1) in view of Takayama et al. (US 2002/0101532 A1).

27. Regarding claim 5, Tullis disclose a portable surveillance system comprising a camera unit.

Tullis failed to clearly disclose the personal surveillance system according to claim 2, wherein the camera unit is capable of regulating a time interval for capturing an image to prevent power consumption.

Takayama disclose a camera unit is capable of regulating a time interval for capturing an image to prevent power consumption. (Page 12, Section 0187, See also figure 11)

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the camera unit of Tullis to regulating a time interval for capturing an image to prevent power consumption as taught in Takayama. The motivation to do is to save power consumption (Page 12, Section 0187).

28. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tullis (US 6,535,243 B1) in view of Nishioka et al. (US 2004/0136093 A1).

29. Regarding claim 6, Tullis disclose a portable surveillance system comprising a camera unit comprising an automatic focus control function.

Tullis failed to clearly disclose the personal surveillance system according to claim 2, wherein the camera unit has an automatic focus control function with respect to an object located at a distance of more than 40 cm.

Nishioka disclose the camera unit has an automatic focus control function with respect to an object located at a distance of more than 40 cm (Page 11 and 12, Section 140, automatic focus for all distance).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the camera unit of Tullis with an automatic focus control function as taught in Nishioka. The motivation to do is that when the object distance is a little further down for manual operation of the focus, to give the user of the camera unit to automatically adjust the focus to capture a quality image of the object.

30. Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tullis (US 6,535,243 B1) in view of Kim (6,681,120 B1) in further view of Takayama et al. (US 2002/0101532 A1).

31. Regarding claim 25, Tullis in view of Kim disclose a portable surveillance system comprising a camera unit.

Tullis in view of Kim failed to clearly disclose the personal surveillance system according to claim 19, wherein the camera unit is capable of regulating a time interval for capturing an image to prevent power consumption.

Takayama disclose a camera unit is capable of regulating a time interval for capturing an image to prevent power consumption. (Page 12, Section 0187, See also figure 11)

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the camera unit of Tullis to regulating a time interval for capturing an image to prevent power consumption as taught in Takayama. The motivation to do is to save power consumption (Page 12, Section 0187).

32. Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tullis (US 6,535,243 B1) in view of Kim (6,681,120 B1) in further view of Nishioka et al. (US 2004/0136093 A1).

33. Regarding claim 26, Tullis in view of Kim disclose a portable surveillance system comprising a camera unit comprising an automatic focus control function.

Tullis in view of Kim failed to clearly disclose the personal surveillance system according to claim 2, wherein the camera unit has an automatic focus control function with respect to an object located at a distance of more than 40 cm.

Nishioka disclose the camera unit has an automatic focus control function with respect to an object located at a distance of more than 40 cm (Page 11 and 12, Section 140, automatic focus for all distance).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the camera unit of Tullis with an automatic focus control function as taught in Nishioka. The motivation to do is that when the object distance is a little further down for manual operation of the focus, to give the user of the camera unit to automatically adjust the focus to capture a quality image of the object.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SELAM T. GEBRIEL whose telephone number is (571)270-1652. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7.30am-5.00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vu NgocYen can be reached on 571-272-7320. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Art Unit: 2622

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Selam T Gebriel/
Examiner, Art Unit 2622
August 2, 2008

***/Ngoc-Yen T. VU/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2622***